

eventually be based. It will be reassuring to health officers and the public to know that our Public Health Service is cooperating with the oyster producers in a thorough study of the question of the promulgation of regulations which will insure safety to the consumers of this important food. In addition to this, numerous laboratories, chiefly those of municipalities and states, are taking their part in the work. It is to be regretted that Congress up to the present time has not furnished a liberal appropriation for the biological studies upon which so much depends.

We must mention also the dinner session on Tuesday night held under the auspices of the Committee on Standardization of Public Health Training. Approximately 225 people were in attendance, evidence of the increasing interest being shown in this important question. The need for a trained personnel is increasing every year and positions are rapidly opening up as states, municipalities, and business men are realizing the importance of health in the affairs of the world. Many are called but few are chosen.

The Local Committee on Arrangements has served the Association well. St. Louis opened her doors wide to all in attendance. The many beautiful country clubs were at the disposal of those who needed fresh air to clear their brains of the labors of scientific work. Excursions to places of interest were provided for and at the opening General Session in the Ball Room, courteous words of welcome were given by the Governor of the State, and the Mayor of the City, as well as state and local health authorities. After the proceedings were over, the floor was cleared and dancing was indulged in by many of the members and guests. All in all, the 1925 meeting will be memorable to the thousand people who attended.

PATRIOTISM AND COMMON SENSE IN EDUCATION

WE HAVE THE tentative program of the American Educational Week jointly sponsored by the Bureau of Education and the American Legion. For each day from November 16 to November 22 inclusive, some special topic is assigned; programs are given; and slogans for adoption proposed. Patriotism is justly exalted, although one might question some of the statements made, such for example as, "Our Flag insures the sanctity of life and the security of property." When one remembers that we lead the world in murder and crimes of violence against the person as well as property, and that no people in the world punishes so small a percentage of its criminals as we do, we are justified in doubting whether such a statement should be made, much as we believe that the statement should be the truth.

However, the program in which we are particularly interested is that for Community and Health Day, Saturday, November 21. In this program physical education is exalted, and the statement is made: "Physical education means health and strength." We would be the last to decry the value of proper physical education, but there is already too much tendency to look to physical education as a panacea for every ill, and our universities, which are supposed to be centers of learning, spend more money on athletics than they do on many departments of science. Furthermore, it is a question whether physical education does mean health. There are other types of education which we are more certain will bring this result. Health education, for instance, sometimes confused with but in fact quite different from physical education, is a major effort of public health workers and many teachers; yet this program of the Bureau of Education makes no mention

of it. Perhaps the emphasis on physical education is to be credited to the other partner in the enterprise—the American Legion.

Among the slogans for health day are "A square deal for the country boy and girl" and "A sound mind in a sound body." We may well ask why the country boy and girl should have a square deal any more than the urban dweller. Equality in life and a fair distribution of benefits should be the ideal. We cannot help but feel that political considerations as well as pedagogy had a part in determining this program for Educational Week. From the standpoint of education, the reason for the participation of the American Legion is not evident, especially since there are several national unofficial organizations whose direct interest is in the educational field. With the advice of these organizations readily available upon request for the whole program and with similar consultation with the unofficial health organizations upon the program for health day the many shortcomings of the program might have been avoided.

THE JOB AND THE MAN

A RECENT REPORT of the Committee on Full-Time Health Officer Legislation of the Conference of State and Provincial Health Officers indicates substantial progress along this line during the past four years. Vermont, it is true, has slipped backward instead of advancing; the repeal in 1923 of its district health officer law removing this state from its past position of leadership in rural health work.

In Arkansas (1925), Maryland (1922), New York (1922) and Pennsylvania (1925), however, new provisions have been made for the appointment of full-time county health officers and in Alabama, Missouri, Texas and other states appropriations for the development of full-time county service have been substantially increased. Wisconsin reports a new law making compulsory the appointment of full-time health officers in all cities of 25,000 and more inhabitants.

Another very significant illustration of the increasing value placed by American communities upon health service is the appointment of Dr. E. C. Levy as Health Officer of Tampa, Fla., at a salary which is probably the highest ever paid to a city health officer in a city of this size, and it is particularly gratifying that such recognition should have come thus promptly to a man whose devoted and brilliant service to the city of Richmond was recently unceremoniously terminated by a new mayor on political grounds.

We need to apply something like the Tampa salary scale in many other cities of the country—or at least to recognize that the position of health officer calls for training and personal qualifications such as are not required for the ordinary municipal bureau chief and that his salary should be at least commensurate with that paid to the superintendent of schools. We need to realize that the health department like the school system should be placed on such a basis that no politician will dare to treat its expert head as a political appointee.

Yet we are making progress, as the experience of Dr. Levy indicates. In general, it may be confidently asserted that for one man looking for a job in this field there are ten jobs looking for a man. The public has today reached the point where it desires health service and is ready to pay for it with reasonable generosity. It is lack of trained personnel which holds us back on every hand. Not only do we need young medical graduates to enter the field of public health, but we need men and women trained in sanitary engineering, biology, statistics and other of